



STATE OF IDAHO



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RUSSIAN BUSINESS LEADERS COMING TO THE TREASURE VALLEY TO EXAMINE ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNANCE

Boise - Boise State University's International Programs Office (IPO) is bringing five Russian leaders to the Treasure Valley June 19-27 to examine civic accountability through the Open World Program. "We saw this as an opportunity to expand internationalization on campus and in the community," said the IPO's Stephanie Marlow, who wrote the successful Open World grant proposal. When Marlow discovered that the delegation included agricultural leaders, she enlisted the Idaho State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) to help host the visit and create a well-balanced agenda that will highlight Idaho's important agricultural industry.

The Open World Program is managed by the independent Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress. Open World is designed to enhance understanding and cooperation between the United States and the countries of Eurasia and the Baltic States by developing a network of leaders who have gained significant firsthand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and free-market system.

While in the Treasure Valley, the delegates will explore a variety of themes, from education and governance to business and agriculture. Activities will range from meeting with Governor Otter and other officials at the state Capitol to discussing regulation with administrators at ISDA. Delegates also will tour several agricultural facilities, including dairy operations in the Magic Valley, a feedlot in Parma and custom farming in Wilder. ISDA Director Celia Gould noted, "Participation in projects like this affords ISDA the opportunity to highlight the incredible work and innovation of Idaho's agricultural community in a way that also helps cultivate relationships with other regions of the world."

The delegates, with their respective organizations, are: David Kamalyan, Agrotrans-service; Aleksey Ruban, Koureks; Zorigto Sakhanov, AGRO-Invest; Andrey Selin, Yelan-Agro; and Nadezhda Sklyarova, Voronezhagrotreyd.

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